

REMARKS

By this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 5, 36-47, 49-59, and 61-66, without prejudice or disclaimer of the resubmission thereof, amend claims 1, 2, 6, 19-27, and 32-34 to better define the claimed invention, and add claims 68-72 to further protect aspects of Applicants' invention. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 6-34, and 68-72 are pending in this application.

In the Restriction Requirement dated October 3, 2003, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group I, directed to claims 1-34; Group II, directed to claims 36-47; Group III, directed to claims 49-59; and Group IV, directed to claims 61-66.

Applicants elect the invention of Group I, directed to claims 1-4, 6-34, and 68-72. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 1-4, 6-34, and 68-72 be examined.

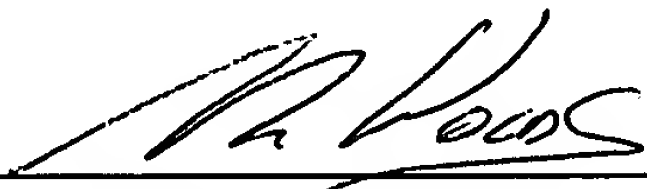
Furthermore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to acknowledge receipt of the seven (7) certified priority documents, which were filed on January 8, 2002, in the next Office Action Summary.

Applicants respectfully request that this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment be entered and the requested changes made. If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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